

Jimsonweed

Datura stramonium

Description

Used for its medicinal properties to treat asthma, though the plant is highly toxic and can be fatal. This species is listed under <https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/plant-pest/plant-health-certification-and-export/seed> Regulation No. 715 - Seed Law Implementation as a restricted noxious weed by the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Habit

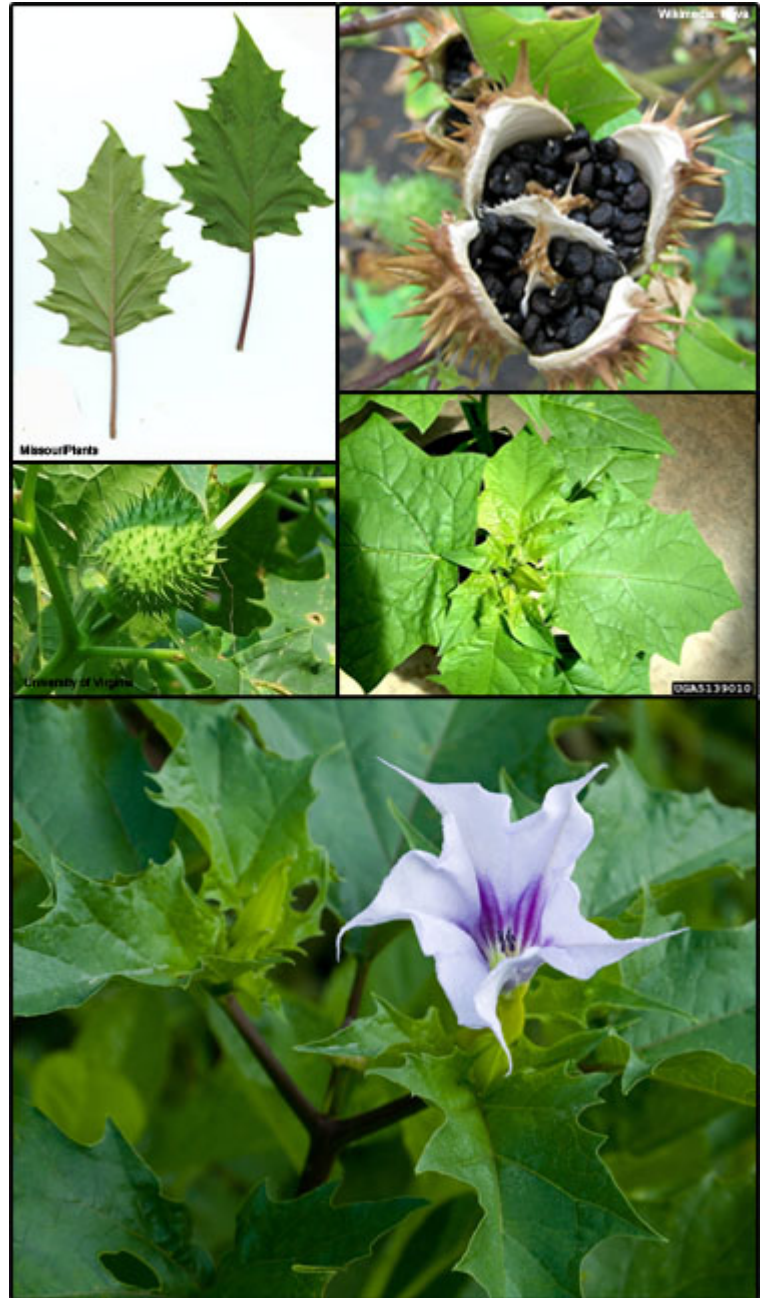
Erect; summer annual; weed of agronomic crops; thick and extensively branched taproot system.

Leaves

Large, 3-8 in long, 6 in wide, ovate, hairless, long stout petioles, margins with a few large triangular teeth; leaves emit an unpleasant odor, especially when touched.

Stems

Very stout, hollow; smooth; branching; green or more often purple; inconspicuous hairs.





Flowers

Large, 2-5 in long, white to purple in color, funnel-shaped, individual flowers occur on short stalks (pedicels) that arise from leaf or branch axils, sepals enclose the lower part of the flower.

Fruits and Seeds

An egg-shaped capsule (1-2 inches long), covered with stiff prickles, splits into 4 segments when mature.

Habitat

Native to Asia and Mexico. Found in disturbed areas, along roadsides, old fields, pastures, waste places; landscape as weed in gardens.

Reproduction

By seed.

Similar

Species of Jimsonweed (*Datura* spp.) are all very similar.

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Burning, rotary hoeing or tillage; once established it is difficult to control; use any of several readily available general use herbicides for field crops.

Credits

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